

REMARKS

This submission is in response to the Official Action dated May 29, 2003. Reconsideration of the above identified application, in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following Groups under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- Group I: Claims 1-18 and 27, drawn to a method for assessing risk of a neurodegenerative disorder;
- Group II: Claims 19-26, 28 and 29, drawn to a method of treating the onset of Alzheimer's disease; and
- Group III: Claim 30, drawn to a method for diagnosing Alzheimer's disease.

In the Office Action, the Examiner contends that Groups I, II and III are unrelated since the different methods recite structurally and functionally distinct elements, capable of supporting separate patents..

The Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to prosecute the claims of Group I (claims 1-18 and 27) which are directed to a method for assessing risk of a neurodegenerative disorder. Applicants have confirmed with the Examiner on June 9, 2003 in a telephone conference that Group I includes claims 1-18 and 27, correcting a typographical error in the restriction requirement.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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